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## In Israel, Romney talks Iran, angers Palestinians

JERUSALEM (AFP) - White House hopeful Mitt Romney yesterday held top-level talks in Israel over Iran's nuclear ambitions but quickly drew fire from the Palestinians for endorsing Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish state.

"We must lead the effort to prevent Iran from building and possessing nuclear weapons capability," Romney said.

"We should employ any and all measures to dissuade the Iranian regime from its nuclear course," he said, expressing hope that diplomatic and economic measures would help achieve this aim, but adding that "in final analysis, of course, no option should be excluded."

"We recognise Israel's right to defend itself, and that it is right for America to stand with you," said Romney.

Rhe White House hopeful, who arrived in Israel from Britain late Saturday on a one-day visit, stepped into the quagmire of Middle Eastern politics when during his policy speech

he hailed Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"It is a deeply moving experience to be in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel," he said, in an apparent endorsement of a position held by the Jewish state but never accepted by the international community.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu thanked him for his remarks, later telling him: "I want to thank you for those very strong words of support and friendship for Israel and for Jerusalem that we heard today."

But the Palestinians were infuriated, saying his remarks were "harmful to American interests in our region."

Israel, which occupied the largely Arab eastern sector during the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed it, claims both halves of the city to be its "eternal and undivided capital."

But the Palestinians want the eastern sector as capital of their promised state and fiercely oppose any Israeli attempt to extend sovereignty there.

## SETAR unveils their one-stop shop

SETAR NV, Aruba's national telecommunications company, was very proud to open the doors of their modernized facility on Caya Betico Croes on Saturday evening, July 28. The sleek new showroom, formally the digital cable office, has been re-designed along the lines of U.S. electronics shops, with more efficient "hands-on" displays of all the tech toys in SETAR's inventory, allowing shoppers to get the feel and understand the interface of the new technology, allowing them to make a well informed final choice.



Minister of Utilities de Meza and Roland Croes



Hands on tryouts of all models

Utilities & Energy, Mike de Meza, who expressed his great satisfaction in SETAR executives' continuing efforts to provide better service for their clients.

The official opening was marked by a breathtaking display of technological virtuosity, as the outer walls of the store are programmable screens. They were a vibrant palette for a stunningly choreographed graphics and music display, as exciting and impressive as any fireworks demonstration.

Continued on page 3

SETAR General Manager Roland Croes explained to the gathering this means of getting to test-run all their models, without the need of a SETAR representative, will greatly speed up service to their clients and expedite the purchase of cell phones, accessories, tablets, Kindles, netbooks and laptops, along with accompanying broadband, WI-FI and cable television packages.

The first guest to be escorted by GM Croes in the door of the sparkling new facility was Aruba's Minister of Finance, Telecommunications,

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## Guatemala seizes drug components from China

GUATEMALA CITY (AFP) - Guatemalan authorities yesterday seized some 41,400 pounds (18,800 kilograms) of chemical components used to make narcotics, shipped from China, a senior official involved in the Central American nation's war on drugs said.

"The chemicals arrived yesterday in two containers from China, transported to a ship docked" in the country's north, the official said.

The chemicals were reportedly being shipped to a company investigators discovered does not exist.

A shipment of chemicals seized on July 14 had been declared as electrical transformers.

The same day, in the same airport terminal, authorities confiscated some 43,000 pounds (19,600 kilograms) of sodium sulfate, destined for a company in Honduras.

## First Pisa, now Rome's Colosseum - it's leaning

ROME - The ancient Colosseum of Rome, where gladiators fought for their lives, is slanting about 40 cm (16 inches) lower on the south side than on the north, and authorities are investigating whether it needs urgent repairs.

Experts first noticed the incline about a year ago and have been monitoring it for the past few months, Rossella Rea, director at the 2,000-year-old monument, said in an article published in the Italian daily Corriere della Sera yesterday.

Rea has asked Rome's La Sapienza University and environmental geology institute

IGAG to launch a study on the phenomenon, with investigations to be concluded in a year.

Tests have also started to observe the effects that traffic on nearby busy roads may have on the monument.

Professor Giorgio Monti, from La Sapienza's construction technology department, warned there may be a crack in the base below the amphitheatre.

The Colosseum - famous for hosting bloody gladiator fights in the days of the Roman Empire - attracts hundreds of thousands of tourists and is usually packed with visitors.

## Arubus receives 16 new Hyundai mini-busses to outsource less traveled routes



Arubus drivers, executives and Minister



Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber joined Theo Croes, Director of Aruba's mass transit service, Arubus, in accepting 16 brand new Hyundai model H-1 mini-busses at Garage Central on Friday afternoon, July 27.

The busses are part of a plan to make Arubus more efficient, and will be deployed for routes which are not frequently traveled. The smaller busses will make service much faster, use less gas and will still provide service to these small demand destinations on the island.

Routes to be serviced by the new system include L5, departing Oranjestad terminal to Macuarima, via Sero Blanco and Piedra Plat, and stops in between and return; L-6, which originates from the

main terminal and ends in Macuarima via Tanki Leendert, L-7, servicing Ponton and Bakval, and L-8 with stops in Simon Antonio, Bucutiweg and Barcadera.

The busses hold 11 passengers maximum and a driver. At present, they are being outfit-

ted with Smartcard permanent bus ticket systems and GPS tracking by Arubus and are expected to be on the road September 1. The final scheduling of the busses and how they are deployed among the different routes has yet to be seen, but each route will start with four new busses, which can change as demand requires.

The new Smartcard system will maintain the old bus fare of 2.25 Aruban florins per passage; cash passengers will be paying 4.00 Aruban florins bus fare. Smartcards can be obtained at Arubus headquarters in Wayaca for no cost, and machines to recharge the card will soon be available at 30 locations convenient to bus stops around the island.

by Rosalie Klein



Minister Oduber with Arubus Director Theo Croes

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## SETAR unveils their one-stop shop

Continued from page 1



**Spectacular show of technological virtuosity**

The easy-access showcase system in the store groups today's most in-demand gadgets in a manner that makes exploring

their advantages while calculating cost, fast and easy. Touch screens allow customers to scroll through various media packages to settle on the one that is right for a client's needs and budget. Previously, this all required the one-on-one assistance of a SETAR representative, but the new shop deploys the far more efficient self-service method in an appealing manner.

Shoppers can



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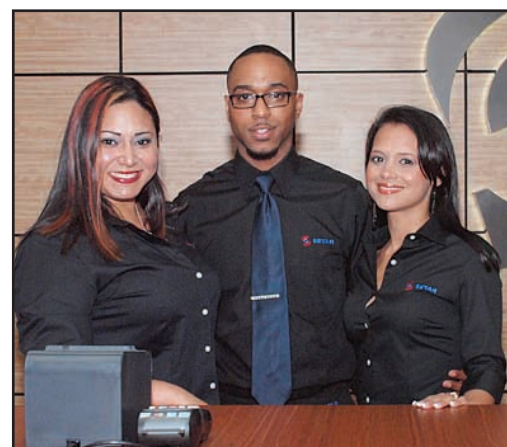
"test drive" the latest model cell phones from a dedicated bank of Blackberry, Android, iPhone and other interfaces, various Samsung tablets, Kindles, HP and Acer netbooks, MAC books, and other tech toys, with representatives standing by if needed. Once purchased, the well-staffed Help Desk will assist customers in setting up their new device and provide informative tips in its use.

Other SETAR facilities can now be less crowded for those wishing to pay bills or inquire on their account, particular as new purchases were a particu-

larly time consuming process. Roland Croes commented that with over 175,000 domestic

7:00 PM Monday through Saturday.

by Rosalie Klein







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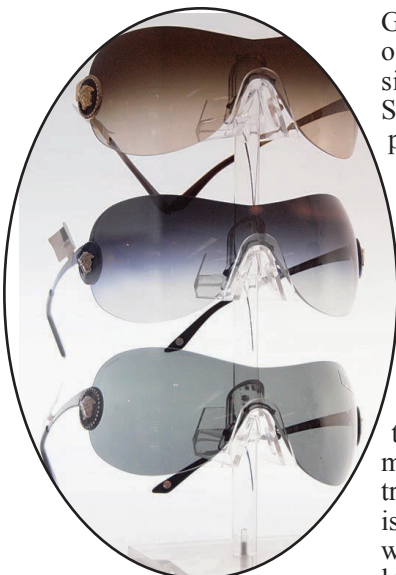
## Palm Beach Plaza welcomes the new **OPTICA** Sun Specs store



Greg and Jeff Johnson with Mgr and Optician Roderick Werleman



VIP Guest arrive in a horse drawn carriage



Frameless designer Sun Specs

Greg and Jeff Johnson, owners of Aruba's most popular designer sunglasses outlet, Sun Specs, were very pleased and proud to welcome island fashionistas for the opening of their latest outlet in the Palm Beach Plaza shopping center on Friday evening, July 27.

The brothers are very excited about their sixth shop on Aruba, Optica Sun Specs, as this one not only features the latest in hot styles in a most necessary accessory on a tropical island, sunglasses, but is their first full-service facility with an on-site optician and lens specialist, Store Manager Roderick Werleman.



Signature designer wear

Not only does the Palm Beach shop prove to be their most spacious and well-stocked store, they can now provide a complete line-up of services, including free eye exams and a fashionable selection of frames for prescription lenses starting for as little as 99 Aruba florins complete. They are also particularly proud to be able to provide same day,



State of the art examination room

and in some cases, one-hour service for single prescription glasses.

The new Sun Specs also has the unique advantage of being open during typical mall hours, providing not only after-hours service for working people, but Sundays too.

It appears the Johnson brothers have certainly found the right prescription for success in meeting the needs of island visitors in providing distinctive and stylish fashion statements in sunglasses, in all the most desired designer brands.

An appropriately elegant opening event marked the debut of the stylish new store, a welcome addition to the Palm Beach shopping center.

by Rosalie Klein



Only a fraction of the selection of elegant aviator glasses



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### Salvatore and Diane Scali honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba



Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees are Mr. Salvatore and Mrs. Diane Scali from Manalapan NJ, USA. The couple visited the island with their beautiful family. They have their own TV reality show in NJ, called the Jersey Couture which can be watched on the Oxygen channel.

A symbolic honorary title was presented to them in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation for their more than 10 consecutive visit to our island.

The Scalis are loyal members of the Aruba Divi Phoenix Resort. According to them, they love Aruba very much; the people, the beautiful beaches, diverse restaurants, and shopping.

The Aruba Tourism Author-

ity in return, expressed its gratitude towards the Scali family for everything they are doing to promote our beautiful Aruba, and said it hoped to see some footage of the show filmed here in Aruba.

The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Avril representing the Aruba Divi Phoenix Beach Resort and family members.

### Assange's mother pleads for Ecuador asylum

QUITO, Ecuador -- The mother of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange said she has traveled to Ecuador to plead with authorities to grant her son asylum in the country.

Assange is holed up inside the Ecuadorian Embassy in London and had applied for political asylum on June 19.

He had been arrested in Britain in 2010 for suspicion of sexual molestation and rape in Sweden, though he denies the allegations. His bail conditions require him to say at the home of a friend outside of London, though he broke the conditions by going to the embassy, CNN reported.

His mother, Christine Assange, told Ecuadorian news Web site El Ciudadano she's afraid Swedish authorities will hand her son over to the United States where he could be prosecuted for releasing more than 250,000 confidential U.S. documents.

"Surely, the Ecuadorian president and his staff will make the best decision," Christine Assange said. She said she planned to meet with officials today.



**Julian Assange**

Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa said the case is under review, acknowledging the United States uses capital punishment for political crimes.

"We have to see whether everything that's being done in the case of Julian Assange is compatible with ... the constitution and our view of human rights, political rights and due process," he said.



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Fighting rages as Syria troops assail rebels in Aleppo

ALEPPO (AFP) - Troops backed by helicopters pushed an offensive against rebels in Syria's commercial capital Aleppo into a second straight day yesterday, sparking fierce fighting and sending civilians fleeing.

The opposition Syrian National Council (SNC) accused the government of preparing to carry out "massacres" in the northern city and pleaded for heavy weapons to enable rebels to meet the onslaught.

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Muallem, on a surprise visit to key ally Iran, said the rebels "will definitely be defeated" in Aleppo, even as a Free Syrian Army (FSA) commander boasted the city would become a "graveyard" for the army's tanks.

Peace envoy Kofi Annan urged both sides to hold back, saying only a political solution could end a conflict that rights activists say has killed more than 20,000 people since the uprising erupted in March 2011.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said yesterday's fighting was focused around the southwestern neighbourhood of Salaheddin, where rebels repulsed a ground assault on Saturday.

"There are clashes on the edges of... Salaheddin" which regime forces were pounding with helicopter gunships, the Observatory's Rami Abdel Rahman told AFP.

Abdel Rahman described the situation in Aleppo as "a full-scale street war," with fighting also in the neighbourhoods of Arkub, Bab al-Hadid, Fardoss, Jisr al-Hajj, Sukari,

Zahraa and at the Al-Hindrat Palestinian refugee camp.

Rebels broke into a juvenile detention center "in order to set the prisoners free," he said, adding displaced families were having difficulty finding refuge "because nowhere is safe any more."

After massing for two days, troops backed by tanks and helicopters on Saturday launched a ground assault on Salaheddin, where rebels concentrated their forces when they seized much of Aleppo on July 20.

Both sides claimed to have made advances, but an AFP correspondent reported rebels had largely repulsed the army when it launched its first onslaught.

Civilians in the city of some 2.5 million crowded into basements seeking refuge from the intense bombardment by artillery and helicopters, the correspondent said.

Colonel Abdel Jabbar al-Oqaidi, FSA commander for Aleppo, said the rebels had inflicted heavy losses on the army in Salaheddin but that there had been many civilian deaths.

"We have destroyed eight tanks and some armoured vehicles and killed more than 100 soldiers," he said.

"Aleppo will be the graveyard of the tanks" of the Syrian army," Oqaidi told AFP in an interview conducted at an isolated farmhouse surrounded by olive groves near the city.

"We ask the West for a no-fly zone" in order to prevent aerial raids by Assad's forces, he said.

The colonel said his men were positioned across Aleppo

and would not withdraw as they had when they came under intense fire from regime troops in Damascus earlier this month.

More than 12,000 Syrians fleeing the violence in their home country have sought refuge in Algeria, a source close to the interior ministry said yesterday.

The authorities have decided to "take charge of Syrians who have sought refuge in Algeria, and whose number is estimated officially at 12,000," the source told AFP, although Syrian opposition sources put the number at up to 20,000.

Algiers is considering using schools that are closed for the summer to house Syrians who are currently in the capital.

Syrian opposition sources inside Algeria say many of their countrymen are also present in other towns in the North African nation, and say they number between 18,000 and 20,000.

Some newspapers have reported as many as 23,000 Syrians in the country, but such figures are hard to verify since they include only arrivals, and do not include those leaving later.

The official SANA news agency said meanwhile that Syrian border guards had killed a large number of "terrorists" who attempted to cross into the country from neighbouring Turkey on Sunday.

The incident occurred in Idlib province, the agency said, adding that elsewhere in the same region "several terrorists' cars, fitted with machineguns, have been destroyed, and weapons have been confiscated."



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### Kurds in secret weapons deal: Iraqi official

BAGHDAD (AFP) - A high-ranking Iraqi official said yesterday security agencies have uncovered a secret weapons deal between the autonomous Kurdistan region and an unnamed foreign country.

"Iraqi security agencies discovered a secret weapons deal between the president of the Iraqi Kurdistan region, Massud Barzani, and a foreign country," the security official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"The weapons include anti-armour and anti-aircraft missiles, and a large number of heavy weapons," the official said, without specifying the exact weapons systems.

The official said Iraqi authorities have obtained "all the documents" pertaining to the deal, which is for "weapons of a Russian type made in 2004," and are trying to block it.

"This step is a breach of the law and the Iraqi constitution, because the only side that can buy arms is the federal ministry of defence," the official said.

Several Kurdish officials either declined to comment on

the allegation or could not immediately be reached by AFP.

For its part Baghdad has ordered 36 F-16 warplanes from the United States, and has already fielded M1 Abrams tanks.

Barzani expressed concern over the F-16s earlier this year, saying he was opposed to the sale of these warplanes while Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki was in office, fearing they would be used against Kurdistan.

On July 17th, Umeed Sabah, spokesman for the Kurdistan region presidency also said in a statement that Maliki had "plans for the militarisation of Iraqi society and supports the option of violence as a means to reach political aims."

Relations between Baghdad and Kurdistan are at a low ebb over multiple festering disputes.

The two sides are at odds over Kurdistan's refusal to seek approval from the central government for oil contracts it has awarded to foreign firms, and over a swathe of disputed territory in north Iraq.



**US Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney visits the Western Wall on July 29, 2012 in Jerusalem's old city, Israel. Mitt Romney yesterday hailed Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, in an apparent endorsement of a position held by the Jewish state but never accepted by the international community. He visited Israel as part of a three-nation foreign tour which also includes visits to Poland and Great Britain.**



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## N. Korea forecasts new storm damage after deadly floods

SEOUL (AFP) - North Korea said yesterday it was being lashed by severe thunderstorms that could cause major damage, just days after flooding that killed scores and left tens of thousands homeless.

State media reported strong winds and heavy rains were battering parts of the country, including the capital Pyongyang, with the official news agency predicting that "most regions will face huge damages".

The second unusually detailed report on bad weather in two days will add to concerns the North's farmland has been ravaged, which could cause new food shortages in a state that struggles to feed its people at the best of times.

Following a visit to the country, UN agencies estimated last November that three million people would need food aid in 2012.

It also represents a challenge for new leader Kim Jong-Un, struggling to get to grips with running one of the world's most secretive states.

The state-run Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said late yesterday that heavy rains and strong winds were battering the country, adding that areas of Pyongyang, and North Pyongan and South Pyongan provinces were particularly hard hit.

"Torrential downpours are continuing even at this hour in some regions... it is expected

that most regions will face huge damages due to the heavy downpour, strong wind and thunders," it said.

The North earlier yesterday forecast heavy rains in most parts of the country on Sunday and today, particularly warning of downpours set to deluge the west coast and the northern province of Jagang.

The warning comes a day after Pyongyang disclosed that a week-long flood earlier this month had left 88 dead, injured 134, and made almost 63,000 people homeless.

More than 30,000 hectares (74,000 acres) of crop fields were washed away or submerged, with roads and factories destroyed, KCNA said.

After decades of deforestation the impoverished North is particularly vulnerable to flooding.

With rugged terrain and outmoded agricultural practices, the communist state faces serious difficulties in feeding its 24 million people. Hundreds of thousands died during a famine in the mid to late 1990s.

The United States reached a deal in February this year to offer the North much-needed food in return for a freeze on nuclear and missile tests.

But the plan was scrapped after Pyongyang's failed rocket launch in April, seen by the US and its allies as an attempted ballistic missile test banned under UN resolutions.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Jordan opens first Syrian refugee camp

**MAFRAQ :** Workers walk among the tents at the Zaatari Camp, the first official Jordanian camp for Syrian refugees fleeing violence in their country, in Mafraq, near the Syrian border, on July 29, 2012. Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh said that Jordan is now hosting more than 142,000 Syrians, around 36,000 of whom are UN-registered, while the majority are living with Jordanian relatives in the country's north. (AFP)



**Anti-nuclear protesters, wearing gas-masks, beat metal drums as they march near Japan's Parliament in Tokyo yesterday. Thousands of demonstrators, some wearing gas masks, marched on Japan's parliament where they will form a human chain to protest the use of nuclear power after the Fukushima crisis**

### Cuba dissident's widow rejects death report

HAVANA (AFP) - The widow of leading Cuban dissident Oswaldo Paya has rejected a government report that blamed the car crash that killed her husband on the driver, saying she had been denied access to information.

Ofelia Acevedo criticized officials for not allowing her to talk to the survivors, Spanish driver Angel Carromero and

Swedish political activist Jens Aron Modig, who have been kept in custody since the July 22 incident.

The government insists Paya, 60, a leading opponent of the one-party rule of the Cuban Communist Party, was killed when Carromero lost control and the rental car struck a tree.

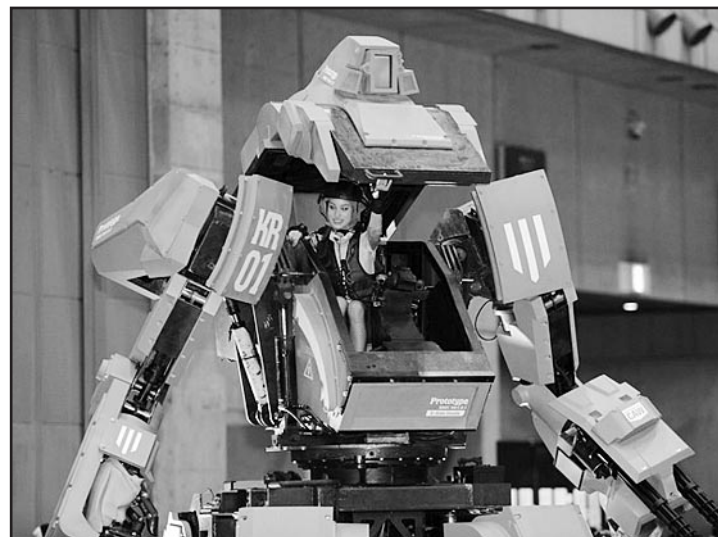
In a lengthy report Friday,

the interior ministry said the Spanish political activist lost control of the vehicle when he abruptly hit the brakes on the slippery surface of an unpaved section of road while speeding.

Paya's family, however, has said it has information that the rental car was forced off the road by another vehicle.

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**A controller smiles from the cockpit of Japanese electronics company Suidobashi Heavy Industry's newly unveiled robot 'Kuratas' (C) at the Wonder Festival in Chiba, suburban Tokyo on July 29, 2012. The Kuratas robot, which will go on sale with a price tag of US\$ 1 million, measures four meters in height, weighs four tons and has four wheeled legs that can either be controlled remotely through the 3G network or by a human seated within the cockpit. (AFP)**





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## New York's JFK Airport top germ spreader: study

(AFP)--New York's John F. Kennedy Airport is a teeming hub for international flight -- and globe-trotting germs, a new study says.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology paper published this week named JFK as the top of a list of "super-spreaders" in contagious diseases.

Next in the list came Los Angeles International, Honolulu, San Francisco, Newark Liberty, Chicago O'Hare and Washington Dulles, MIT said.

Top germ hub status doesn't actually mean the airports are disease-ridden themselves.

The study instead measured a wide variety of factors contributing to the airports' role in the spread of infectious disease. These include travel patterns, geographic location and waiting times.

The idea was to help understand and predict how viruses like SARS and bird flu get around and prompt epidemics in an ever-more connected world.

"Our work is the first to look at the spatial spreading of contagion processes at early times, and to propose a predictor for which 'nodes' -- in this case, airports -- will lead to more aggressive spatial spreading," said Ruben Juanes, an energy studies professor.

"The findings could form the basis for an initial evaluation of vaccine allocation strategies in the event of an outbreak, and could inform national security agencies of the most vulnerable pathways for biological attacks in a densely connected world."

The findings can be counter-intuitive.

The likes of Los Angeles and Chicago are well known for their heavy traffic, but Honolulu gets just 30 percent

as much air traffic as New York's JFK. However, the island airport is "nearly as influential in terms of contagion, because of where it fits in the air transportation network," the report said.

"Its location in the Pacific Ocean and its many connections to distant, large and well-connected hubs gives it a ranking of third in terms of contagion-spreading influence."

## Ebola outbreak in Uganda kills 14

KAMPALA (AFP) - An outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus that erupted in western Uganda at the start of July has killed 14 people, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Saturday.

The latest outbreak was in the western Kibaale district, around 200 kilometres (125 miles) west of the Ugandan capital Kampala, and around 50 kilometres from the border with Democratic Republic of Congo.

"We have confirmed 20 people who have contracted the virus of which 14 have died," Joaquim Sewaka, WHO Uganda representative, told AFP.

Sewaka said that teams from the Ugandan health ministry and the US government's Centre for Disease Control (CDC) had been dispatched to the area.

"The response is strong and we will try to set up quarantine points as soon as possible," Sewaka said.

The rare haemorrhagic disease, named after a small river in DR Congo, killed 37 people in western Uganda in 2007 and claimed the lives of at least 170 people in the north of the country in 2000.

## Controversial Down's syndrome test gets Swiss go-ahead



GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) - Switzerland has given the green light for prenatal testing for Down's syndrome, Swiss media reported Sunday.

The controversial test will be available in the country from mid-August following the decision by Swissmedic, the national agency for therapeutic products, Neue Zuercher Zeitung Sonntag reported.

The test, developed by life science specialists Life-Codexx, involves screening pregnant women's blood samples to either rule out or confirm the presence of foetal Down's syndrome, which is also known as trisomy 21.

The German-based firm describes the procedure, marketed as PrenaTest, as a "risk-free alternative to common invasive examination methods such as amniocentesis".

Demand is high in Switzerland from doctors and expectant mothers, the company said.

The test will also be marketed in Germany, Austria and Liechtenstein, according to the German-based firm's website.

The development follows an attempt by the international federation of Down's syndrome organisations to convince the European Court of Human Rights that it should not recognise people's right to such tests.

The federation, grouping 30 associations in 16 countries, said in June that the Strasbourg court must "recognise the human condition and protect the right to life of people with Down's syndrome and those handicapped".

## Teething Baby? Avoid Benzocaine, FDA Says



Parents should not use benzocaine products to relieve teething pain in babies except under the advice and supervision of a health care professional, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration says.

Benzocaine is a local anesthetic found in over-the-counter products such as Anbesol, Orajel, Baby Oranjel, Orabase and Hurricane.

The use of benzocaine gels and liquids to relieve gum and mouth pain can lead to a rare but potentially deadly condition called methemoglobinemia, in which the amount of oxygen carried through the bloodstream is greatly reduced. Children under 2 years old are at particular risk for the condition, the FDA said in a news release.

The agency first warned about the potential dangers of benzocaine in 2006 and has since received 29 reports of benzocaine gel-related cases of methemoglobinemia. Nineteen of those cases occurred in children, 15 of them under 2 years of age.

The FDA also noted that parents may have difficulty recognizing the symptoms of methemoglobinemia, which include: pale, gray or blue-

colored skin, lips and nail beds; shortness of breath; fatigue; confusion; headache; light-headedness and rapid heart rate.

Symptoms can occur within minutes to hours after benzocaine use, and after using the drug for the first time or after several uses. Parents should immediately call 911 (or the local emergency number outside the United States) if a child has symptoms of methemoglobinemia after being given benzocaine, the FDA said in the news release.

Instead of using benzocaine to ease teething pain, the American Academy of Pediatrics suggests that parents give a child a teething ring chilled in the refrigerator, or use a finger to gently rub or massage the child's gums.



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## SCI-TECH

## Pop music has become louder, less original: study finds

PARIS (AFP) - Your mother was right: Pop music has become louder and less original over the years.

At least, this is the conclusion of a computer analysis of nearly half-a-million songs recorded between 1955 and 2010 and reported in Nature Scientific Reports Thursday.

"We have been able to show how the global loudness level of music recordings has consistently increased over the years," study author Joan Serra of the Spanish National Research Council said in an email exchange.

Similarly, the team found the diversity of chords and melodies has "consistently diminished in the last 50 years".

"This yields a clear recipe for contemporising old songs: using more common chord changes, changing the song's instrumentation, and record it louder," said Serra.

The study spanned a variety of genres, including rock, pop, hip hop, metal and electronic.

It mentioned no songs by name, simply analysing the music in algorithms of numbers and symbols in search of patterns.

"Much of the gathered evidence points towards an important degree of conventionalism, in the sense of blockage or no-evolution, in the creation and production of contemporary Western popular music," said the study.

## 'Predictive policing' takes byte out of crime

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Crime fighters have long used brains and brawn, but now a new kind of technology known as "predictive policing" promises to make them more efficient.

A growing number of law enforcement agencies, in the US and elsewhere, have been adopting software tools with predictive analytics, based on algorithms that aim to predict crimes before they happen.

The concept sounds like something out of science fiction and the thriller "Minority Report" based on a Philip K. Dick story.

Without some of the sci-fi gimmickry, police departments from Santa Cruz, California, to Memphis, Tennessee, and law enforcement agencies from Poland to Britain have adopted these new techniques.

The premise is simple: criminals follow patterns, and with software -- the same kind that retailers like Wal-Mart and Amazon use to determine consumer purchasing trends -- police can determine where the next crime will occur and sometimes prevent it.

Colleen McCue, a behavioral scientist at GeoEye, a firm that works with US Homeland Security and local law enforcement on predictive analytics, said studying criminal behavior was not that different from examining other types of behavior like shopping.

"People are creatures of habit," she said.

"When you go shopping

you go to a place where they have the things you're looking for... the criminal wants to go where he will be successful also."

She said the technology could help in cities where tight budgets were forcing patrol reductions.

"When police departments are laying more sworn personnel, they can do more with less," she said.

The key to success in predictive policing is getting as much data as possible to determine patterns. This can be especially useful in property crimes like auto theft and burglary, where patterns can be detected.

"You can build a model that factors in attributes like the time of year, whether it is hot and humid or cold and snowy, if it is a payday when people are carrying a lot of cash," says Mark Cleverly, who heads the IBM unit for predictive crime analytics.

"It's not saying a crime will occur at a particular time and place, no one can do that. But it can say you can expect a wave of vehicle thefts based on everything we know."

IBM has worked with dozens of agencies such as London's Metropolitan Police, the Polish National Police and a number of US and Canadian cities.

In Memphis, officials said serious crimes fell 30 percent and violent crimes declined 15 percent since implementing predictive analytics in a program with IBM and the University of Memphis in

2006.

The program known as CRUSH -- Criminal Reduction Utilizing Statistical History -- targeted certain "hot spots" to allow police to deploy more efficiently.

John Williams, crime analysis manager for the city's police, said the system has had a dramatic impact, allowing Memphis to get off the list of worst US cities for crime.

-- 'Quality arrests' --

"If the data is indicating a hot spot, we are able to immediately deploy resources there. And in a lot of instances we are able to make quality arrests because we're in the right area at the right time," he told AFP.

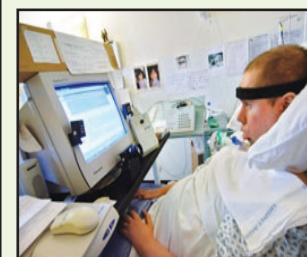
Although beat officers can use their instincts for similar results, Williams said the software could be far more precise, such as predicting burglaries in a small geographic area between 10 pm and 2 am.

In one case, the software was able to help police break up a group that was committing armed robberies on the city's Hispanic population.

While use of such analytics generally wins plaudits for helping "smarter" policing, it does raise concerns about Big Brother-like snooping.

Andrew Guthrie Ferguson, a law professor at the University of the District of Columbia, said the use of technology could be positive but that it could lower the threshold for constitutional protections on "unreasonable" searches.

## All eyes on new writing device for the disabled



Piéplu Thomas works using a computer with a camera following the movements of his eyes (AFP/File)

PARIS (AFP) - A French researcher has built a device allowing disabled people to write or draw on a computer screen using only their eyes, a report said.

With head-mounted cameras monitoring their eye movements, test subjects were able to write and draw on a blank computer screen in the latest breakthrough for people trapped in immobility by disease or accident.

"For persons deprived of limb movement, this offers a fast, creative and personal means of linguistic and emotional expression," said the report by Jean Lorraine of France's CNRS research institute.

Lorraine's system, still just a prototype, compensates for saccadic, or jumpy, eye movements to allow a smooth writing style.

After four half-hour training sessions, his subjects were able to write at a rate of about 25 letters per minute.

Similar systems exist, but none that allow a person to trace their own letters with this level of precision.

In July, engineers said they had built a device using mass-produced video gaming equipment that lets disabled people control a computer cursor with just their eyes -- with a price tag of under \$30 (25 euros).

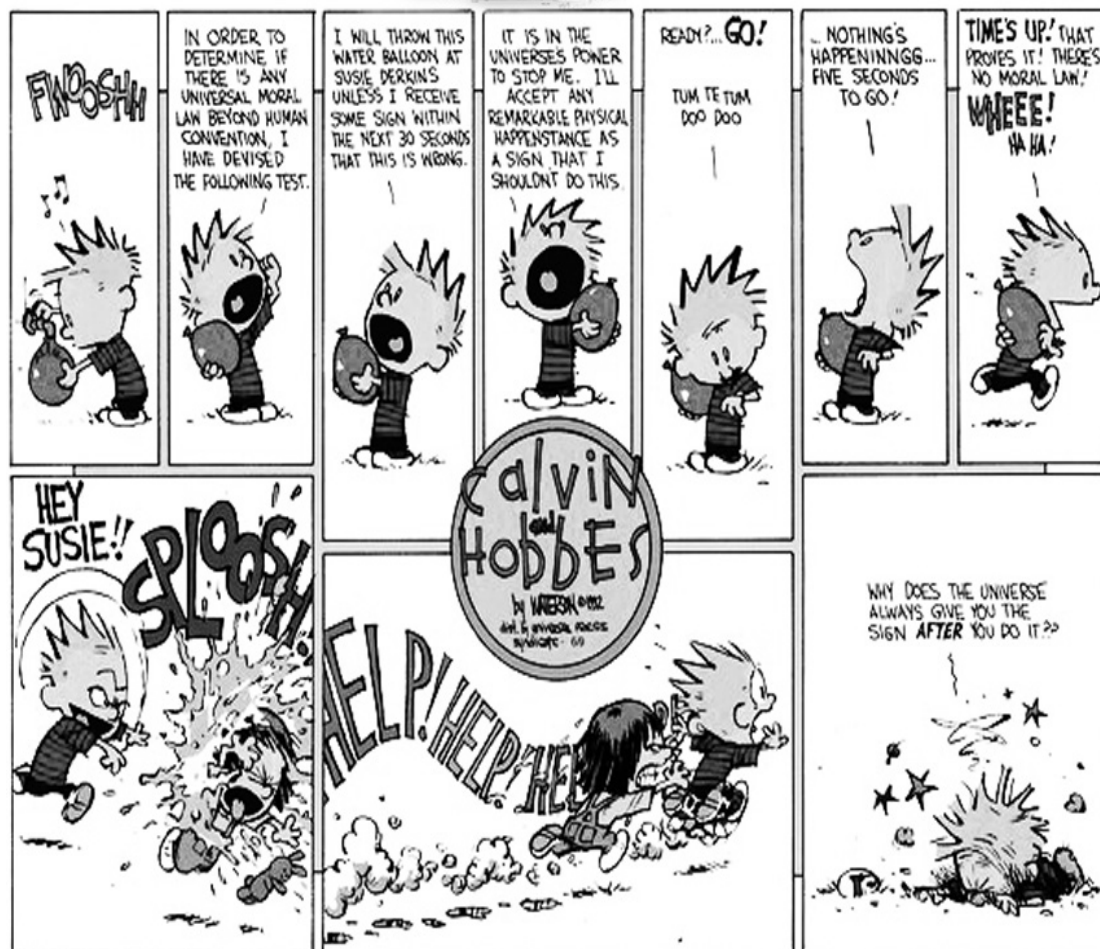
Other technologies require electrode implants in the brain, an expensive procedure.

Such technology offers hope for restoring some level of independence to people suffering from multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy and spinal cord injuries or amputees.

In the EU alone, there were more than 16 million people with disabilities who would benefit from such a system, an earlier study had found.



## COMICS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

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## ACROSS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Mahal
4. Truck-making inits.
7. Large vaso
10. Starting with (2 wds.)
12. Simpleton
13. Sentimental mush
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Cooper (car)
15. Early-morning movie (2 wds.)
17. Twosome
18. Pseudonym
19. Encountered
21. Impudent
24. Razos
27. Swimming unit
29. Bradley et al.
30. Sunday singers
32. Parisian pal
33. Increase twofold
34. Baldwin et al.
38. Verb ending
39. Become mature
41. Strip of contention

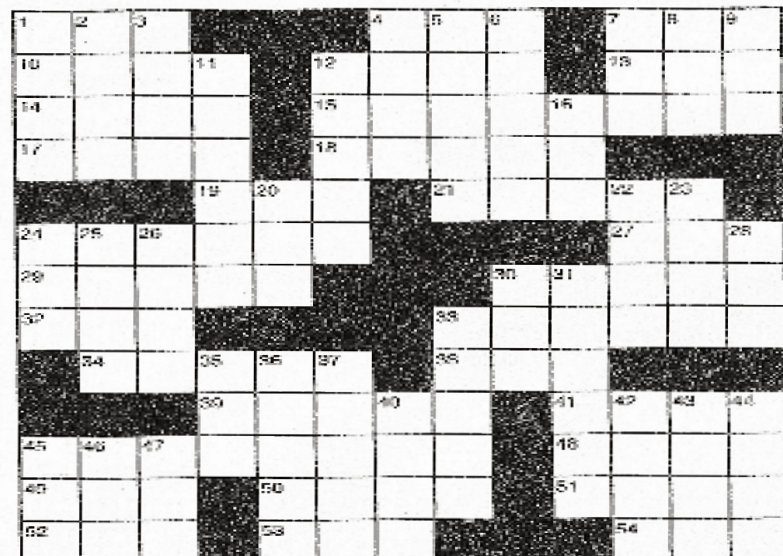
45. Extra pay
48. Test
49. Court divider
50. Author Bagnold
51. Contradict
52. Devoured
53. Became firm
54. Quebec article

## DOWN

1. Pack down
2. Laos's continent
3. Singer/songwriter Mitchell ("Both Sides Now")

4. Soccer target
5. Theme
6. Transparent
7. "Yuck!"
8. "Pooh" character
9. Today
11. More solid
12. Lowered notes
16. Wind dir.
20. City railways
22. Untidy person
23. Greet
24. Mauna \_\_\_\_\_
25. Jane Austen heroine
26. Colorado resort
28. Prior to (prefix)
30. Swindle
31. Embraced
33. Wined and \_\_\_\_\_

35. Slip up
36. Quotes
37. Book part
40. Give forth
42. Skating jump
43. Writer Grey
44. Irving and Brennmant
45. Three \_\_\_\_\_ match (2 wds.)
46. Animal doc
47. Summer (Fr.)



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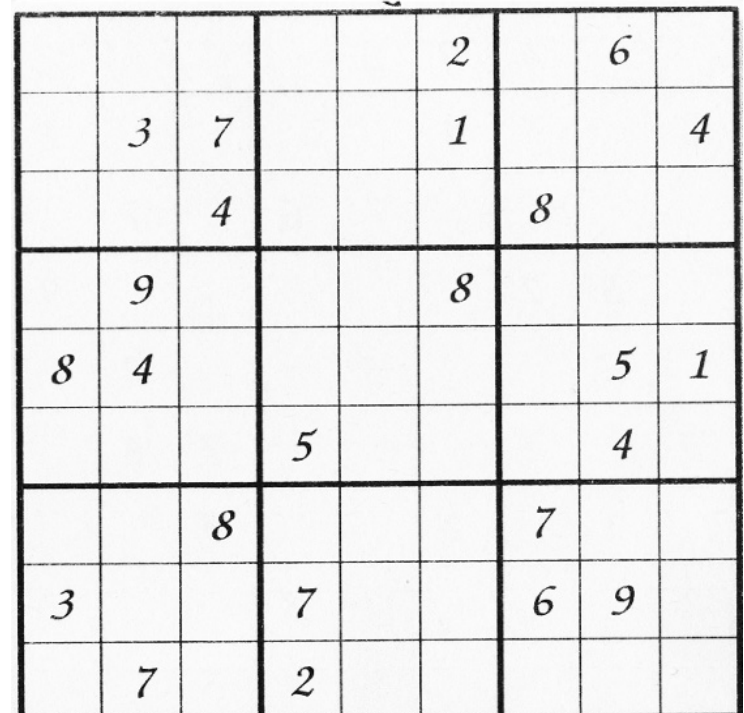
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POLICE HDQS  
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TAXI  
C.V. TAS  
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**Sudoku**



SOLUTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5	6	9	7	8	2	1	4	3
2	1	4	6	9	5	8	3	7
8	7	6	5	2	3	1	9	4
1	5	2	9	4	6	8	3	7
9	4	8	7	1	5	6	2	3
6	8	4	5	9	7	2	1	3
7	2	5	1	6	8	4	9	3
4	9	1	2	3	7	6	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as 07/29/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.75	1.77	1.79
Britain	GBP	2.74	2.79	2.85
Switzerland	CHF	182.46	183.18	183.98
Netherlands	EUR	217.39	219.37	221.58
Sweden	SEK	24.82	25.54	26.34
Denmark	DKK	28.52	29.24	30.04
Norway	NOK	28.38	29.10	29.90
Japan	JPY	225.76	227.82	230.11
(per 100)				
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.				

## Finance

# At least three banks seen central to Libor rigging

-- New details from court documents and sources close to the Libor scandal investigation suggest that groups of traders working at three major European banks were heavily involved in rigging global benchmark interest rates.

Some of those traders, including one who used to work at Barclays Plc in New York, still have senior positions on Wall Street trading desks.

Until now, most of the attention has involved traders at Barclays, which last month reached a \$453 million settlement with U.S. and UK authorities for its role in the manipulation of rates. Now, it is becoming clear that traders from at least two other banks - UK-based Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc and Switzerland's UBS AG - played a

central role.

Among them, the three banks employed more than a dozen traders who sought to influence rates in either dollar, euro or yen rates. Some of the traders who are being probed have worked for several banks under scrutiny, raising the possibility that the rate fixing became more ingrained as traders changed jobs.

The scandal, which began to come to light in 2008, has become a time bomb for regulators and a big focus for politicians on both sides of the Atlantic. At issue is the manipulation between at least 2005 and 2009 of rates that are used to determine the cost of trillions of dollars of borrowings, including everything from home loans to credit card rates.

# ECB stirs expectations ahead of summit

With a deterioration in the Spanish outlook threatening to engulf Italy, the eurozone's monetary guardians must set aside any thoughts of the summer break when they meet in Frankfurt this week.

Comments from Mario Draghi, president of the European Central Bank, have left markets, and some eurozone governments, hopeful that the central bank will provide more help. Yields on Spanish and Italian debt fell last week after Mr Draghi signalled the ECB would buy more government bonds.

But those expecting action as early as Thursday's governing council meeting could be disappointed. The ECB will want to see more from governments, perhaps purchases of sovereign debt by the European Financial Stability Facility, the eurozone's temporary rescue fund, and a stronger commitment from Madrid to tackle its twin banking and economic crises, before it steps in.

The ECB president's more

aggressive stance has split the governing council of top central bank officials.

The bond buying program, dormant for four months, was off the agenda at recent council meetings and Mr Draghi's hints of a restart astonished some members. Germany's Bundesbank quickly objected, though Mr Draghi has the support of Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, and Wolfgang Schäuble, finance minister.

On Saturday, Angela Merkel and Mario Monti pledged to do everything necessary to shield the debt-wracked eurozone from the crisis, a statement said yesterday.

In a telephone talk on Saturday, they "agreed that Germany and Italy will do everything to protect the euro-

zone," said the statement released in Berlin and Rome.

The statement followed a similar pledge by the leaders of France and Germany on Friday and remarks on Thursday by the head of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, in which he vowed to "do whatever it takes to preserve the euro."

Financial markets will test the firm pledges to stand by the euro today when Italy bids to raise up to 4.75 billion euros in five and 10-year bonds.

Markets were roiled last week amid fresh speculation that Spain will need a full sovereign bailout package and new concerns that Greece will be unable to stick to the reforms required to stay in the 17-nation eurozone.

## SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

SPICA TAGS HON  
LION ADAM ARI  
AKIN NONE YAP  
BELONG GELS  
YOLKS ETCH  
AKA BEN STALE  
NIL EDITH CUD  
DWELL FRI KEY  
SIRE SEERS  
TILT ATHOME  
FBI IOUS AVOW  
DON SOSO MANE  
RAG PLAN ELKS



**DHAKA --** A Bangladeshi shopkeeper tends to his stall at Bongo Bazar in the city Saturday. Bongo Bazar is the largest garment market in Bangladesh, usually stocking export rejects to be sold at discounted prices. (AFP)



**The President of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega (C)** meets with delegates of the Central American countries and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, in Managua on July 27, 2012. This meeting was held after the Japan-SICA Forum XV to discuss cooperation and investment projects for the region. Ortega urged Japan to invest in development projects to lessen the influence drug trafficking has in the region, on July 27, 2012.



**NEW YORK:** A water jug is seen at Molecule Water Cafe in Manhattan's East Village on July 27, 2012 in New York City. The newly opened cafe sells New York City water purified in a \$25,000 filtration system and encourages customers to purchase and refill environmentally friendly glass bottles. Extras such as vitamins and electrolytes can be custom added.



## A partnership of Promenade restaurant and S.I.A.A. foundation provides and exciting venue to appreciate local artists



A sample of work presented



Andreas Dorer with board of SIAA

Friday evening, July 27 heralded an opportunity for island visitor to appreciate and purchase the work of Aruba's talented community of visual artists. Andreas Dorer, son of the owners of Promenade

Restaurant, the popular eatery just on the outskirts of Oranjestad, presented the idea to the board of Stichting Instituto Artesano Aurbano, S.I.A.A., of their eatery becoming a showcase, the foun-



Participating artists

dation board thought it a perfect marriage of fine food and art.

The result is the current exposition "Aruba through a Window," providing distinctly personal interpretations by nearly 30 island painters, with well-respected artist Timothy Charles acting as curator of the present collection. All works are offered for sale, and mini-catalogs can be found on each table for diners to peruse, if any painting in particular has caught their eye.

The S.I.A.A. is dedicated to establishing a league of artisans and providing art education for all levels of ability, to improve the quality of work generally and provide opportunities for artists to present their creative efforts to the public.

Timothy Charles particularly praised the conscientiousness of Promenade Restaurant for deciding to support the local art community, rather than elect to decorate their walls with mass-produced prints or artwork from off island.

The current collection on display runs the gamut from photo-realistic work to impressionist, abstract and avant-garde, including some photography. Participating artists include: Franco Koolman, Rosanne Koelewijn, Joseph Miklojck, Gerda van Leeuwen, Laureen Eman, Miriam de L'Isle, Hendrik Shouten, Ruthy Vrieswijk, Eduardo Valbuena, Edith Mensonides, Michiko Takatsue, Deisy Gutierrez, Ruurd Vandermuelen, Sherry Douglas, Reginald de Palm, Timothy Charles, King Lee Kwie, Mo Mohamed, Efre Brete, Elvis Tromp, Maria Theresa Wever-Martinez, Irene paterson, Gairo Tromp, Sandra van der Linde, Anthony Croes, Nigel Matthew, Armando and Sylvanio Goedgedrag and Danilo German.

As works are sold they will be replaced with new pieces. The original art is very reasonably priced, and patrons enjoying this new added value to their dinner at Promenade declared the idea "delightful; we hope it is a huge success."

By Rosalie Klein



## Jackson's mother, nephew to share custody of children



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Michael Jackson's mother will share custody of his children with his nephew, lawyers said Friday after a hectic week for the musical family.

Katherine Jackson, 82, met with her grandson TJ Jackson, 34, this week and agreed that joint custody is in the best interest of the children, the Jackson family matriarch's lawyer Perry Sanders said in a statement.

"Mrs Jackson is extremely pleased with the prospect of enjoying the pleasure of raising Michael's children without the day-to-day tedium of items such as managing the large staff that goes with such a high-profile family and focus her attention on being a grandmother and raising Michael's children," Sanders said.

The Jackson family will formalize the new custody arrangement early this week, Sanders said, ending the family's dispute over the custody of Prince (15), Paris (14) and Blanket (10).

On Wednesday, the Superior Court in Los Angeles granted TJ temporary custody of the children, because of Katherine Jackson's mysterious disappearance for 10 days. She had previously been the guardian of the children.

The fractious Jackson family has been embroiled in legal and financial disputes since the pop star's sudden

death in June 2009 from an overdose of propofol, a powerful anesthetic.

Katherine Jackson controls the \$70,000 per month that Michael Jackson left his family in his will.

The document grants TJ custody of the children, if Katherine Jackson dies while they are still minors.





## Batman clings to top of North American box office

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Batman flick "The Dark Knight Rises" held on to the top spot at North American box offices this weekend despite last week's mass shooting in Colorado, according to figures released Sunday.

Twelve people were killed and 58 wounded when a gunman sprayed bullets into a midnight premiere of the final installment of the Batman trilogy in Aurora, Colorado on July 20.

The film finished its debut weekend with the third-largest earnings ever, and this weekend raked in earnings well above its competitors, bringing in \$64 million, according to Exhibitor Relations, which tracks ticket sales.

Second place, with \$13.3 million, went to 3-D computer-animated adventure comedy "Ice Age 4: Continental Drift."

Coming in just behind was science-fiction comedy "The Watch," which opened with \$13 million in box office re-

ceipts.

The film stars Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn, Jonah Hill and Richard Ayoade as four suburban dads who form a neighborhood watch only to end up battling an alien invasion.

"Step Up: Revolution," about a crew of street dancers protesting urban development plans in Miami, opened in fourth (\$11.8 million), followed by cheeky teddy bear comedy "Ted," (\$7.3 million) and "The Amazing Spider-Man" (\$6.8 million).

Pixar studio's 3-D animated fairytale "Brave" dropped to 7th place (\$4.2 million), ahead of Steven Soderbergh's comedy about male strippers, "Magic Mike," (\$2.6 million) and Oliver Stone's new thriller "Savages," (\$1.7 million), about Californian drug traffickers facing off against a Mexican cartel.

Rounding out the top 10 was Wes Anderson's dream-like narrative "Moonrise Kingdom," with \$1.3 million.

**A must see while on Aruba!**

## Baby Beach



**BABY BEACH**, is a shallow, sheltered man-made lagoon located in Seroe Colorado, on the southeast end of the island of Aruba, and is frequented by locals and tourists alike. It is named Baby Beach as the water is so calm it is safe for small children. The snorkeling at this location is great for children or travelers new to snorkeling.

The benefits of this beach include the lack of waves and that nearby waters are shallow enough to stand. The water in the deeper areas, as well as around the rest of Aruba, is cool and refreshing year-round. There is a large Valero

oil refinery within sight of Baby Beach. However, because of the direction of local currents, Baby Beach still has very clean, clear water. In the past, Baby Beach's popularity led it to become somewhat littered. However, clean-up programs have largely restored the beach to a pristine condition.

The water level is generally waist high on the inside, but towards the inlet, it deepens significantly. Marine life includes barracuda, squid, parrot fish, blowfish, angel fish, eels, snakes and a lot of other small fish, although the range of most of these animals is limited to the inlet.

## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and

drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious,

connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge



offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet

services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.





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Mainstreet Downtown Aruba



## 'Big baby' Ding starts China on road to gold sweep



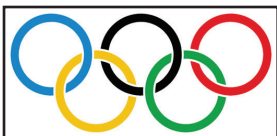
LONDON (AFP) - China, which won every individual table tennis medal on offer at the Beijing Games in 2008, made an ominously fast start to a march towards another probable sweep on Sunday.

Ding Ning, the women's world champion, did that with an impressively fluent performance with both words and deeds as she beat Daniela Dodéan, a former European doubles champion from Romania, by 11-4, 11-3, 11-9, 11-6.

Ding, reportedly nicknamed "Da Baobei" -- meaning "big baby" -- was in fact anything but that, despite her smooth and almost pre-pubescent appearance.

Repeatedly Ding was quizzed about how she dealt with constantly being expected to win, and each time she had a slightly different answer ready.

"I felt pressure, yes, but at the same time I am very prepared because I am number one, and so I have been prepared for it," she said.



## Summer Olympics: July 27 - August 12

### The Skype could be the limit for US golden boy



LONDON (AFP) - Jose Ramirez is seen as the man who can finally deliver the United States Olympic lightweight gold 20 years after the great Oscar de la Hoya did in Barcelona and on Sunday he did little to discourage that notion.

The 19-year-old overcame early nerves to edge his tough as teak French taxi-driving opponent Rachid Azzedine, 10 years the American's senior, 21-20.

Ramirez's win took the Americans to an impressive 3-0 in their bouts so far and shortly afterwards Errol Spence made it four from four with victory over Brazilian Myke Ribeiro de Carvalho in their welterweight clash.

With those four safely through it has given the young team belief that they can end the run which has seen the United States win just one gold medal in boxing since the 1996 Atlanta Games - light heavyweight Andre Ward in 2004.

Ramirez, though, was the one many had come to see and he didn't disappoint settling down to land some slick

combinations on the Frenchman, who had only gained a place here through a wild card after breaking his jaw last year.

Ramirez, who sported striking luminous light green shoes, said that it had been a nervewracking experience fighting his first ever Olympic bout.

"I'd been absolutely fine pre the bout, I was really excited and I was even talking on Skype to my family as I was getting ready," he said.

"However, I went in a little tense once I entered the arena and realised the atmosphere was totally different from anything I had encountered before.

"I settled pretty quickly and then it kind of flowed as I was motivated by all the people I knew were watching me."

Ramirez, who next fights an Uzbek fighter, said he and his team-mates were well aware of the desire back home for the star-spangled banner to ring out again at the boxing.

"We're a young team but we're hungry," he said.

Azzedine, whose team-

mate the 2008 lightweight bronze medalist Alexis Vastine had won earlier in the day, admitted he had got it all wrong despite the closeness of the result.

"I made the mistake of going to war with him and I wasn't able to win it," he said.

Two other nations maintained their perfect records, hosts Great Britain who have seen all three of their fighters progress - Freddie Evans and Josh Taylor progressing on Sunday and the Irish too have the same record after policeman Adam Nolan breezed through.

Taylor's win over Brazilian Robson Conceicao left a sour taste in his defeated rival's mouth, even more bitter as they had clashed violently in what was meant to be a gentle pre-Olympic sparring session last week.

"You could say it got pretty tasty!" grinned the 21-year-old Scot about the sparring incident.

Conceicao, though, was steaming over the judges decision.

"It is unfair. They're (the judges) ruining my job," said Conceicao.

"But this happened because he is from here."



### Scola, Ginobili power Argentina past Lithuania

LONDON (AFP) - Luis Scola scored 32 points and fellow NBA star Manu Ginobili added 21 as Argentina defeated Lithuania 102-79 on Sunday in their opening game of the Olympic men's basketball tournament.

Carlos Delfino, an NBA sharpshooter, contributed 20 points to boost the South American squad in the Group A round-robin matchup.

Ginobili, who also grabbed 10 rebounds, is a veteran with the San Antonio Spurs while Scola is a centre for the Houston Rockets. They are among five players Argentina boasts from the 2004 Athens Olympic gold-medal team.

Lithuania is trying to return to medal form, having taken Olympic bronze in 1992, 1996 and 2000 before losing the bronze medal game in 2004 and 2008.

Argentina defeated Lithuania 87-85 for the bronze medal four years ago at the Beijing Olympics but Lithuania avenged the loss at the 2010 world championships with a 104-85 victory in the quarter-finals.



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## Five wicket Roach underpins Windies Test win

NORTH SOUND, Antigua and Barbuda (AFP) - A five-wicket haul for Kemar Roach and an unbeaten 64 from opener Chris Gayle saw West Indies beat New Zealand by nine wickets on Sunday to win the first Test of their two-match series at North Sound.

After dismissing the tourists for 272, the hosts raced to their target of a measly 102 for the loss of just Kieran Powell as Assad Fudadin hit the winning single to put the West Indies 1-0 up in the two-match series.

Gayle had already laid the foundation on his return to five-day cricket after more than 18 months due to his stand-off with the West Indies

Cricket Board following comments he made about officials in a radio interview by smashing 150 in the first innings - Powell adding a ton of his own for good measure.

The 32-year-old followed up with 64 off 49 balls and although Doug Bracewell took the wicket of Powell for 30, Dean Brownlie taking the catch, Fudadin bagged the winning single in the 20th over at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium.

The Black Caps, just 28 ahead overnight after the West Indies pummelled their way to 522 in response to the visitors' first innings tally of 351, only added 26 more runs before lunch and their

chances faded away as Roach dismissed captain Ross Taylor and Kane Williamson in the morning session.

Paceman Roach bowled Taylor following a rain delay - when Taylor was given out lbw when an angled ball hit him low on his pads.

In his next over Roach then bowled Williamson for a duck, finding his off stump.

Kruger van Wyk gave Roach - who had earlier also accounted for Brendon McCullum and Neil Wagner - his fifth wicket to end the New Zealand innings and Gayle and Powell then set up the victory by putting together a partnership of 77 before Fudadin applied the coup de grace.

## Three-stop strategy was wrong, admits Red Bull's Webber

BUDAPEST (AFP) - Mark Webber has admitted Red Bull were wrong to gamble with a three-stop strategy after slipping to eighth in the latter stages of Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix.

The Milton Keynes-based team elected to call the Australian, who had climbed to fifth from 11th on the grid, for a final visit to the pits in anticipation that rivals would

begin to struggle for grip on worn tyres.

However, this was not the case and Webber, 35, lost three places in the pits and wound up eighth behind Williams driver Bruno Senna of Brazil.

"We were hoping people would be in a bit more trouble with their tyres at the end," admitted Webber. "We were in fifth place and had a nice cushion, but we've had plenty of times this year where the tyres had stopped working towards the end of the race."

"Today it didn't really work out that way and we lost places through trying something different. I was quicker in the closing stages, but it's hard to overtake here and I couldn't get the job done."

Although Webber, second in the drivers' standings, lost further ground to championship leader Fernando Alonso of Ferrari, who was fifth on Sunday, he was sure to take the positives from the race.

## American Piercy wins Canadian Open

TORONTO (AFP) - Scott Piercy made four straight birdies to hold off William McGirt and Robert Garrigus to win the PGA Tour's Canadian Open on Sunday.

Piercy closed with a three-under 67 to finish at 17-under 263 as he tied the oldest 72-hole scoring record on the PGA Tour.

Piercy two-putted from 50 feet for par on the 18th hole of the Hamilton Golf and Country club course to post

"Still, we moved up three places from the start, we have good points and it's very open for the rest of the year."

His Red Bull team-mate and defending drivers' champion Sebastian Vettel wound up fourth but remained convinced his car was quick enough to have won the race.

"I think our overall speed was better than the actual result we got today," said the German driver.

"I was stuck behind Jensen in the first stint; he was slower and we lost some time there, but of course you can't just pit and come out in clean air, there's traffic, so there's not much we could have done."

"The race pace was very good, so now it's up to us to do better in qualifying and at the start; then it's a different race."

Webber is now 40 points behind Alonso in the standings with 124, just two points ahead of Vettel, while Red Bull lead the constructor's championship with 246 points, 53 ahead of McLaren.

his second career USPGA Tour victory.

McGirt was atop the leaderboard for much of the fourth round. But he three-putted for bogey on the 15th and failed to save par from a bunker on the final hole for a 69 that left him one shot adrift of Piercy.

Garrigus, the 54-hole leader, fired a 70 after he three-putted the 16th hole for bogey and finished in a tie for second.

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## Major League Baseball Standings

American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
YANKEES	60	40	.600	--	WASHINGTON	60	40	.600	--
BALTIMORE	53	49	.520	8.0	ATLANTA	57	44	.563	3.5
TAMPA	52	49	.515	8.5	NY METS	48	53	.475	12.5
TORONTO	51	50	.505	9.5	MIAMI	47	54	.465	13.5
BOSTON	50	51	.495	10.5	PHILADELPHIA	45	57	.441	16.0
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
CHICAGO	55	45	.550	--	CINCINNATI	61	40	.604	--
DETROIT	54	48	.529	2.0	PITTSBURG	58	43	.574	3.0
CLEVELAND	50	52	.490	6.0	ST. LOUIS	54	48	.529	7.5
MINNESOTA	43	58	.426	12.5	MILWAUKEE	45	55	.450	15.5
KANSAS	41	59	.410	14.0	CHICAGO	42	58	.420	18.5
West	W	L	Pct	GB	West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	58	41	.586	--	HOUSTON	35	68	.340	27.0
OAKLAND	55	46	.545	4.0	SAN FRANCISCO	55	45	.550	--
LA ANGELES	55	46	.545	4.0	LA DODGERS	55	47	.539	1.0
SEATTLE	46	57	.447	14.0	ARIZONA	51	50	.505	4.5
					SAN DIEGO	43	60	.417	13.5
					COLORADO	37	63	.370	18.0

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## France stun USA in relay win as swim records fall



Clement Lefert, Fabien Gilot and Amaury Leveaux of France celebrate after winning the gold in the Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay

LONDON, July 29, 2012 (AFP) - France engineered an epic upset in the men's 4x100m freestyle relay Sunday, one of two French golds on a pulsating night of action in the Olympic pool where two world records fell.

Yannick Agnel powered past American star Ryan Lochte on the final 50m of the closing relay leg as France won the coveted 4x100m relay gold for the first time in 3min 09.93sec.

The Americans' second-placed finish gave Michael Phelps a first career silver medal to go with his 14 gold and two bronze.

Russia took bronze over a stunned Australia, whose vaunted James "The Missile" Magnussen and James "The Rocket" Roberts failed to fire.

The victory was redemption of a sort for France, who went into the same race as favorites in Beijing four years ago only to see veteran Jason Lezak's miraculous final-leg swim deliver victory to the United States and keep

Phelps' bid for eight gold medals alive.

The win was also part of a French festival at the Aquatics Centre, where Camille Muffat won the women's 400m freestyle in an Olympic record of 4:01.45.

American Allison Schmitt was second in 4:01.77 and 2008 Olympic champion Rebecca Adlington of Britain stormed home in lane eight for bronze in 4:03.01 to the deafening cheers of the home crowd.

American Dana Vollmer opened the action with a 100m butterfly triumph in a world record of 55.98sec, becoming the first woman to dip under 56 seconds in the event.

Cameron van der Burgh followed with an emotional world record-setting triumph in the 100m breaststroke.

Van der Burgh led from start to finish, winning in 58.46sec to improve on the previous world mark of 58.58sec held by Australian Brenton Rickard.

"If there is such a thing as

the perfect race, I think I swam it at the right time tonight," said van der Burgh, who became the first South African man to win an individual Olympic swimming gold.

He said it was the gold, and not the record, that mattered most.

"I don't really care about the world record," said van der Burgh, who finished ahead of Australian Christian Sprenger and American Brendan Hansen.

"Once you have become an Olympic champion that can never be taken away from you."

Japanese breaststroke king Kosuke Kitajima's bid to become the first man to win the same Olympic swimming event at three straight games evaporated in the blistering pace set by van der Burgh.

South Africa's only other men's swimming gold came in the 2004 4x100m freestyle relay, making them part of the exclusive club of nations to beat the United States in the event along with Australia and, now, France.

## Vos the boss in women's road race

LONDON (AFP) - Dutch cycling sensation Marianne Vos ended years of frustration on the world stage by dominating Britain's Lizzie Armitstead in a two-up sprint to win Olympic road race gold on Saturday.

Armitstead finished second at over a bike's length behind to take the silver -- Britain's first medal of the Games -- with Olga Zabelinskaya of Russia winning the bronze after 140km of road racing.

Four years after finishing sixth in Beijing and having collected an amazing five consecutive runner-up places at the world road race championships, Olympic gold had become Vos's obsession.

"After Beijing, that was the only thing that was on my mind for four years," said the Dutchwoman, who owns an impressive collection of titles in several cycling disciplines.

"Now that it's happened, it's incredible. Now the gold is mine."

Vos, a world road champion at the age of 19, came into the Games as the woman to beat after shaking off the setback of a broken collarbone to win five stages and the overall title at the



women's Giro d'Italia.

After some early attacks by her Dutch teammates, the 25-year-old showed aggressive Briton Pooley, a constant threat on the undulating Box Hill circuit, that she could give as good as she got.

"I knew it was 140km and you need some energy for the finish," she said.

"But I also knew that a hard race was good for me and also the others had to follow and use their energy. For me, it was a plan to attack early, many times, to tire myself and also to tire out the others."

### Spain out of Olympic football tournament

LONDON (AFP) - Spain crashed out of the Olympic football tournament on Sunday after the world and European champions suffered a shock 1-0 loss to Honduras at Newcastle's St James' Park. Jerry Bengtson's seventh-minute header was all that separated the sides in a stunning victory for the Central Americans that meant Spain could not qualify out of Group D following their opening defeat by Japan. Bengtson scored when he rose high to power in Roger Espinoza's driven cross past Manchester United goalkeeper David de Gea.